

# Bringing the Past to the Present

KEWEENAW NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IS NOT A PLACE WHERE THE stories, ideas and significance immediately unfold. It is not like Yellowstone National Park where you feel the immense presence of wilderness and awe of magnificent scenery and wildlife. It is not like Abraham Lincoln’s birthplace where you feel a connection with the former president after viewing the log home where he was born. To discover why Keweenaw was set aside for preservation you need to do some work.

As you visit the park, you will have to learn to read the landscape – looking for clues of a once thriving, industrial and metropolitan area. You will have to observe place names – looking for street signs that are difficult to pronounce and restaurants with Italian and Finnish names. You will have to listen – noticing the sounds and accents you hear today and comparing them with what was heard fifty to one hundred and fifty years ago. You will have to explore – looking for copper veins flowing into Lake Superior, walking through towns and noticing architectural details, touring an underground mine and imagining daily life. As you visit this place, every one of your senses will make discoveries that provide clues to the significance of Keweenaw National Historical Park.

The story of mining is the heart of the park’s significance. Mining conjures up many images like the large scale open pit mines of Arizona or perhaps underground coal mines in West Virginia. Maybe you think of abandoned gold mines in Colorado or diamond mines in Africa. Chances are, you don’t think of copper mining and the Keweenaw Peninsula. For over 100 years though, copper was king on the Keweenaw. Used for ship hulls, ammunition and electrical wiring, copper was the mineral explorers and investors sought – even before the famed California and Alaska gold rushes.

The Keweenaw Peninsula contained the richest concentration of native, 97% pure elemental copper found anywhere in the world. The discovery and extraction of this copper created the landscapes, street names and environment you see today. For over a century, copper connected this place with Boston, New York City and the world. Thousands of immigrants from Europe came to work and live here. Thousands of tons of copper were extracted from underground mines. Dozens of investors made millions of dollars.

The area grew rapidly as investors learned of the riches existing underground. From the 1880s to the 1930s the biggest amount of growth occurred with investors funding entire copper production operations: mining, stamping, smelting and exporting. Many companies created entire communities complete with churches, schools, hospitals, libraries and family homes. Companies invested in the health and welfare of their workforce, hoping to keep them here and



Though there have been many changes in Calumet through the years, this early 1900s birds-eye view of the village, taken from a Calumet & Hecla Mining Company smoke stack, shows a skyline still recognizable today.

not lose them to competing mining operations. In turn, immigrant workers invested in the area, establishing farms, restaurants and private businesses.

It was a system that worked, despite the ups and downs, until the 1960s. Then, copper mining and refining on the Keweenaw Peninsula became too expensive. The companies sold out and shut down. Buildings began to deteriorate. People moved on to other places, their abandoned homes serving as reminders of once lively neighborhoods. Without students, schools consolidated, leaving deserted playgrounds. Businesses locked their doors and shuttered their windows. Once prosperous downtowns fell silent.

The region’s copper mining past may have simply faded away as time and economics took their toll, but Keweenaw National Historical Park was established in 1992 to preserve and interpret this heritage. The park was created because of the geological significance, the historic mining operations that occurred, the landscape and architectural details that remain and because of the stories of the people that once lived here.

What is Keweenaw National Historical Park and why was it created are frequently asked questions. Above only offers a peek at potential answers. It is your turn to be captivated by the past, entranced by the heritage of the area and make your own discoveries. As author David McCullough writes, “The past, after all, is only another name for someone else’s present.”

By Kathleen Harter, Chief of Interpretation at Keweenaw National Historical Park

## Welcome from the Park Superintendent

Welcome to Keweenaw National Historical Park, a unique unit of the National Park System. The park is unique in the sense that it was established upon a broad partnership mandate. The National Park Service collaborates with other federal, state and local governments, and non-governmental entities, to provide collectively many of the traditional visitor services experienced in other units of the National Park System.

Please keep two things in mind as you visit. First, the park, and our partnerships, continues to evolve and will do so over many years. Secondly, the story of the Keweenaw encompasses much more than that of mining copper. As articles in this newspaper illustrate, exciting progress is being made in shaping the park’s future.

We invite you to visit and explore each park cooperating site to learn first-hand their part of the copper story. Walk the streets of Calumet, marvel at the resplendent architecture and imagine shops of all varieties supporting a population in excess of 60,000 people 100 years ago. See, smell and envision working underground at the Quincy or Delaware mines. Explore the shores of mighty Lake Superior and the wildness of the Keweenaw. Imagine what it took to carve out a life here, in an area at one time virtually isolated from the world seven months of the year!

We encourage you to explore and experience as much as your visit allows so hopefully you, too, will better appreciate and understand the song and story of Keweenaw’s “Copper Country!”



Frank C. Fiala  
Superintendent

## 2 Exploring the Keweenaw

The most difficult decision you may have while visiting the Keweenaw Peninsula is deciding what to do and when to do it. Whether you have half a day or a week, there are plenty of places to visit, relax, and learn. This article features a list of suggestions and ways to organize your visit on the Keweenaw Peninsula.

## 6 Speaking Volumes

The Division of Museums, Archives, and Historical Services works to protect and preserve significant reminders of our past. Miners’ helmets, drills, and lunch pails help us imagine the struggles, fears, and day-to-day lives of the men, women, and children who played a part in the strike.


## 7 No Place Like Home

The historic landscapes found in the Keweenaw, along with the buildings and features they contain, can help us understand who we are. While they serve as tangible reminders of our nation’s copper mining heritage, and the changes witnessed by that industry and this region, they also reflect the culture, traditions and customs of the people who make their homes here.

### Inside this Newspaper

Visitor Information.....	2
Isle Royale Natural History Association..	3
Cooperating Sites Information.....	4 & 5
Keweenaw History and Culture.....	6 & 7
Interpretive Services.....	8





National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior

Keweenaw National Historical Park

Keweenaw National Historical Park was established to preserve, protect and interpret the natural and cultural resources relating to the copper mining industry for the enjoyment and benefit of current and future generations through cooperative efforts and partnerships with state and local governments, public and private entities.

Mailing Address

Keweenaw National Historical Park  
PO Box 471, 25970 Red Jacket Road  
Calumet, Michigan 49913

E-mail

KEWE\_Information@nps.gov

Website

www.nps.gov/kewe

Park Headquarters

(906) 337-3168

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(906) 337-3169


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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may Experience our heritage.

# Visitor Services And Facilities


**KEWEENAW VISITOR INFORMATION DESK**

 Located in the entrance to the Quincy Mine Gift Shop, a staffed National Park Service information desk provides information on Keweenaw National Historical Park and cooperating sites. Phone (906) 482-0650  
**June 10 to September 5, Monday to Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday – 12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**


**PARK HEADQUARTERS**

 Keweenaw National Historical Park Headquarters, located in the historic Calumet & Hecla Mining Company General Office Building on Red Jacket Road in Calumet, has a staffed reception desk to provide park information.  
**Open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**FOOD AND RESTAURANTS**

 A variety of restaurants are located throughout the Keweenaw Peninsula. Grocery stores are also available in all the major communities.


**CAMPING**

 Numerous camping options, including both primitive and developed sites, are available across the Keweenaw Peninsula. Public campgrounds are available at Fort Wilkins, McLain and Porcupine Mountains Wilderness state parks. Private campgrounds are also available. For more information, contact the Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-338-7982 or www.keweenaw.info


**TRANSPORTATION**

 **Daily Air Service:** provided by Northwest Airlink to the Houghton County Memorial Airport (CMX), 1-800-225-2525.  
**Bus service:** provided by Greyhound Bus Lines, 1-800-231-2222. Charter bus service is available through Superior Coaches & Delivery of Houghton, (906) 487-6511.  
**Cab service:** available in the Calumet, Hancock, and Houghton areas.  
**Rental cars:** available at the airport and from local car dealers.

**LODGING**

 A full range of hotels, motels, bed and breakfast inns and cabins are found across the Keweenaw Peninsula. Contact the Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau for more information. 1-800-338-7982 or www.keweenaw.info

**Accessibility**

 The Keweenaw Visitor Information Desk and Keweenaw National Historical Park Headquarters are accessible. Many other park facilities located in historic structures are not fully accessible at this time. Projects are underway to make more park facilities accessible in the near future. Visit our information desk or contact the park to check on the current accessibility of the park and park cooperating sites prior to your visit.

*left:* Keweenaw Visitor Information Desk located at the Quincy Mine Gift Shop.

*right:* Park Ranger Gary Kaunonen answers visitor questions in front of park headquarters.



Keweenaw Weather					
Month	Average High Temperature	Average Low Temperature	Record High/Low Temperature	Average Precipitation	Average Snowfall
January	21.7°F	8.5°F	43°F / -26°F	4.21 inches	70.9 inches
February	23.6°F	9.5°F	56°F / -25°F	2.28 inches	34.0 inches
March	32.3°F	17.9°F	65°F / -21°F	2.4 inches	23.6 inches
April	46.3°F	30.0°F	88°F / 0°F	1.71 inches	7.7 inches
May	61.4°F	41.2°F	95°F / 20°F	2.62 inches	1.1 inches
June	70.5°F	50.0°F	96°F / 31°F	2.85 inches	0 inches
July	75.7°F	56.0°F	102°F / 36°F	3.07 inches	0 inches
August	73.3°F	55.5°F	97°F / 38°F	2.73 inches	0 inches
September	63.0°F	47.2°F	92°F / 25°F	3.32 inches	0.1 inches
October	51.3°F	37.3°F	86°F / 13°F	2.59 inches	3.8 inches
November	36.3°F	25.8°F	71°F / -2°F	2.86 inches	23.8 inches
December	25.6°F	14.8°F	54°F / -15°F	3.48 inches	57.9 inches
Weather forecasts and warnings for Keweenaw National Historical Park and vicinity can be heard on NOAA Weather Radio WXX-73 broadcasting at 162.400 MHz.					

## Exploring the Keweenaw

**The most difficult decision you may have while visiting the Keweenaw Peninsula** is deciding what to do and when. Whether you have half a day or a week, there are plenty of places to visit, relax, and learn. The following is a list of suggestions and ways to organize your visit on the Keweenaw Peninsula.

**Arriving and Getting Oriented**  
Visit the Keweenaw National Historical Park Information Desk at the Quincy Mine Gift Shop to learn about the park and Cooperating Sites. Here you can acquire more detailed information on lodging, restaurants, and points of interest. Calumet and Houghton tourist information 1-800-338-7982.

**Enjoying Natural Scenery**  
State and national parks offer a wide range of options from extended overnight backpacking trips to short day hikes and picnicking. There are also waterfalls to view, kayaking tours, and beaches for relaxing on warm summer days.

**Enjoying Cultural History**  
Visit any of the local historical societies and museums and learn about the rich cultural heritage of the area. These points of interest are staffed with knowledgeable volunteers and offer a variety of perspectives on life in the Keweenaw Peninsula.

**Staying Safe**  
During any of your excursions, be mindful of old mining sites. Such sites often contain old machinery and buried mine entrances – all of which could pose visible and unforeseen hazards.

**Respecting Private Property**  
Please be considerate of private property. Many abandoned mining sites and homes are still in private ownership and require owner permission prior to visiting. To learn more about such sites and the distinction between federal, state and private property, visit the Keweenaw National Historical Park Information Desk at the Quincy Mine Hoist. See above for days and hours of operation.

**Recommended Stay**  
You should allow three days to visit all Keweenaw National Historical Park Cooperating Sites. You may wish to add a few more days to fully enjoy the Keweenaw Peninsula.

**Trails and Roads**  
Walking tour guide brochures for the Calumet Historic Business District, the Calumet & Hecla Industrial Area, and the Laurium Historic Residential Area are available at the Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau located on U.S. Highway 41 in Calumet, Michigan.



# Isle Royale Natural History Association



The Isle Royale Natural History Association, in partnership with the National Park Service, promotes the public's understanding and appreciation of Keweenaw National Historical Park and Isle Royale National Park through education and research.

By publishing and selling products about Keweenaw National Historical Park and Isle Royale National Park, we educate people about these special places and raise funds that are re-invested in the parks to support research and interpretive programs. Every year the Isle Royale Natural History Association contributes approximately \$25,000 in cash and in-kind aid to Keweenaw National Historical Park and Isle Royale National Park.

### You Can Help

You can support the work of the Isle Royale Natural History Association and our partner parks by becoming a contributing member of our organization.

Tax Deductible Membership levels are:

Life	\$1000 (Payable in 5 installments)
Benefactor	\$500
Patron	\$250
Sustaining	\$100
Supporting	\$50
Household	\$30
Individual	\$25

### Isle Royale Natural History Association Member Benefits

- A 10% discount on all purchases from Isle Royale Natural History Association outlets and other National Park Visitor Centers throughout the U.S.
- 3 issues of the *Wolf's Eye* Newsletter
- Copies of park newspapers: *The Keweenaw Ingot* and *The Greenstone*
- Special invitations to park programs, trips, and events
- An opportunity to participate in the IRNHA membership e-mail list

Become a member today! Call us at 1-800-678-6925, or join online at [www.irnha.org](http://www.irnha.org)



Visit the Isle Royale Natural History Association bookstore at the Isle Royale Visitor Center in Houghton, MI.

## Behind the Scenes: Our Advisory Commission

When Congress established Keweenaw National Historical Park, they also created a permanent Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission to help visitors understand and appreciate the Keweenaw Peninsula's copper mining story. Though most visitors to the park may not know they exist, the commission plays an important role in shaping the quality of their experience by working closely with park staff, cooperating sites and partners throughout the region.

While park staff run daily operations, provide technical assistance to park partners and assist visitors, the commission's role is to forge relationships with non-federal partners throughout the Keweenaw Peninsula. Congress mandated the commission to:

- Select sites for interpreting and preserving the copper story
- Develop policies and programs for the conservation and protection of the scenic, historical, cultural, natural and technological values of the park
- Carry out historical, educational or cultural programs which encourage or enhance appreciation of the historic resources in the park and surrounding areas, and
- Seek and accept gifts, bequests, or donations of money, personal property, or services on behalf of the park.

How does this benefit our visitors? Currently, the commission is formalizing selection criteria for partner and cooperating sites. Sites tell stories that are important to the area's copper mining history and include historic and/or natural resources. The commission is also assisting cooperating sites to establish uniform standards of operation. This will help visitors to enjoy a consistent experience as they travel throughout the peninsula and to understand a site's relevance to copper mining. The ability to accept gifts on the park's behalf encourages donations of objects to the park's museum collection and helps preserve key artifacts of the copper mining era. From behind the scenes, the advisory commission plays a key role in the visitor experience at Keweenaw National Historical Park.

By Tom Baker, Management Assistant at Keweenaw National Historical Park

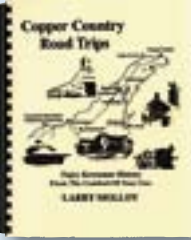
## Keweenaw Mementos

Want to learn more about Keweenaw National Historical Park? Check out these items available from the Isle Royale Natural History Association. Visit the sales outlet at the Isle Royale National Park Visitor Center on the waterfront in Houghton, Michigan. Association members receive a 10% discount on every purchase! You can also order on-line: [www.irnha.org](http://www.irnha.org) or by phone: 1-800-678-6925.



**Historic Postcards** **30¢ each or 4 for \$1**  
Four photos from the Keweenaw National Historical Park archives, showing downtown Calumet's Fifth Street in 1899, C&H Stamp Mill in the 1890s, men on the roof of the Quincy Hoist House in 1920, and miners with mass copper at the Quincy Mine in 1925.

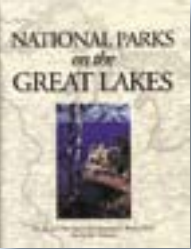
**Copper Country Road Trips** **\$15.95**  
By Larry Molloy  
Enjoy Keweenaw history from the comfort of your car. Complete directions, maps and photos of historic sites of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. 93 pages. Spiral bound.



**Self Guided Geologic Field Trip to the Keweenaw Peninsula** **\$29.95**  
By Theodore J. Bornhorst & William I. Rose  
Travel directions, maps, diagrams and explanations for exploring the geological formations of the Keweenaw Peninsula on your own. 183 pages. Spiral bound.



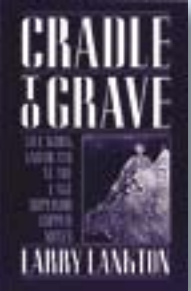
**National Parks on the Great Lakes** **\$7.95**  
By Ron Thomson and Raymond L. Breun  
Information and large color photos of National Parks, Lakeshores and Historic Sites on Lake Superior, Lake Michigan and Lake Erie, including Keweenaw National Historical Park and Isle Royale National Park. 48 pages.



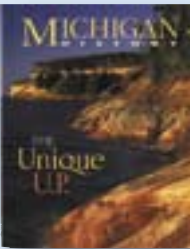
**Calumet Copper and People: History of a Michigan Mining Community 1864-1970** **\$9.95**  
By Arthur W. Thurner  
This very readable book by Calumet native Arthur Thurner tells the story of the immigrants who came to the Copper Country. Here they sought their livelihood, if not their fortune, in the copper mines and developed a community rich in ethnic and cultural diversity. 107 pages.



**Cradle to Grave** **\$16.95**  
By Larry Lankton  
A well-researched and very readable account of the rise and decline of the copper mining industry in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. Winner of the 1992 Great Lakes History Prize. 309 pages.



**Michigan History Magazine: The Unique U.P.** **\$6.95**  
A special issue of Michigan History Magazine devoted to Michigan's Upper Peninsula. An exploration of the Upper Peninsula and the places and people that make it unique. Packed with interesting stories and great photos both current and historical. 108 pages.



**Keweenaw National Historical Park Medallion** **\$9.95**  
This limited edition commemorative medallion is made of solid copper with bas relief artwork. It is 2 1/2" in diameter and comes in a clear protective collector's case.



**Michigan's Copper Country: The Keweenaw National Historical Park Video** **\$19.95 VHS, \$21.95 DVD**  
A video trip to the cooperating sites of Keweenaw National Historical Park: Historic Calumet, Quincy Mine Hoist and Underground Mine, Fort Wilkins and Porcupine Mountains state parks, Keweenaw and Houghton County historical museums, Old Victoria, Hanka Homestead, Seaman Mineralogical Museum and Delaware Copper Mine. 55 minutes.



Shop today at [www.irnha.org](http://www.irnha.org) or by phone: 1-800-678-6925. Don't forget that association members receive a 10% discount!



# Keweenaw Cooperating Sites



## Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau works with the National Park Service to provide travel information and reservation services for Keweenaw National Historical Park and the surrounding area.  
**Location:** 56638 Calumet Avenue, Calumet, Michigan  
**Open:** Year Round  
Calumet (906) 337-4579  
Toll-Free 1-800-338-7982  
[www.keweenaw.info](http://www.keweenaw.info)



## A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum

Explore the Keweenaw Peninsula's unique geology and copper formation through exhibits on native copper and an extensive mineral collection.  
**Location:** Michigan Technological University, Fifth Floor of Electrical Resource Center, Houghton, Michigan  
**Summer Hours:** July to September, Monday to Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday – Noon to 5:00 p.m.  
**Winter Hours:** October to June, Monday to Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Closed Mondays, November through March  
**Fees:** Donations accepted  
(906) 487-2572  
[www.museum.mtu.edu](http://www.museum.mtu.edu)



## Coppertown USA Museum

Exhibits provide insights into operations at the copper mining giant, Calumet & Hecla. Housed in C&H's pattern shop on Red Jacket Road, the building is a key historic element in the Calumet industrial landscape.  
**Location:** 25815 Red Jacket Road, Calumet, Michigan  
**Open:** May 25 to October 8, Monday to Saturday – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday (July & August only) – 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** \$3.00 adults, \$1.00 12 to 18 year olds, under 12 free.  
(906) 337-4354  
[www.uppermichigan.com/coppertown](http://www.uppermichigan.com/coppertown)



## Calumet Theatre

Built in 1899, the oldest municipally-built opera house in the country still offers a variety of theatrical and musical events throughout the year. Guided and self-guided tours are available.  
**Location:** 340 Sixth Street, Calumet, Michigan  
**Open:** May 17 to October 16, Tuesday to Sunday – 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** Guided Tour \$5.00 adults, \$1.00 children 12 and under  
(906) 337-2610  
[www.calumettheatre.com](http://www.calumettheatre.com)



## Delaware Mine

This privately-owned mine site provides tours of one of the oldest underground copper mines on the Keweenaw Peninsula.  
**Location:** Off U.S. Highway 41, 12 miles south of Copper Harbor  
**Open:** July & August, Daily – 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; May, June, September & October, Daily – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** Rates not available at press time. Call for information.  
(906) 289-4688  
[www.copperharbor.org/site\\_files/del\\_mine.html](http://www.copperharbor.org/site_files/del_mine.html)



## Copper Range Historical Museum

Stories of the Copper Range Mining Company, its workers, and community life of this historic company town are displayed here. Nearby Painesdale is one of the best preserved copper company towns.  
**Location:** Michigan State Highway 26, South Range, Michigan  
**Open:** June 1 to October 8, Tuesday to Saturday – 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** Donations accepted  
(906) 482-6125  
[www.pasty.com/crhm](http://www.pasty.com/crhm)



## Fort Wilkins State Park

Built in 1844, this military fort provided order on the Keweenaw frontier and protected the area's copper resources during the Civil War. Costumed interpreters, restored buildings and museum exhibits explore daily routine in the military service  
**Location:** U.S. Highway. 41, Copper Harbor  
**Open:** mid-May to mid-October, Daily – 8:00 a.m. to Dusk.  
**Fees:** Michigan State Park motor vehicle permit required  
(906) 289-4215  
[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)





Keweenaw National Historical Park preserves sites and stories that mark the rise, domination and decline of the region’s copper mining industry. This industry played a key role in the industrialization of America. The National Park Service works with a collection of sites owned and operated by state and local governments, private busi-

nesses and non-profit organizations to tell the larger story of copper mining. Each of these sites allows you to explore the role copper mining played in people’s lives here and afar. The park’s cooperating sites embody stories of hardship, struggle, ingenuity, hope and success.



### Hanka Homestead

While mining provided job security, many Finnish immigrants longed for the farming lifestyle of their home country. Hanka Homestead is an example of a Finnish farm. Volunteers provide guided tours.  
**Location:** approximately 3 miles west of U.S. Highway 41, off Tower Road Pelkie, Michigan  
**Open:** Memorial Day through Labor Day, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays – Noon to 4:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** Adults \$3, children \$1  
(906) 334-2601



### Houghton County Historical Museum

The museum features artifacts and photographs spanning over 100 years of mining life. Take a train ride behind a C&H Porter 0-4-0 Steam Engine.  
**Location:** 5500 Michigan State Highway 26, Lake Linden, Michigan  
**Open:** June 30 to September 30, Monday through Saturday – 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday – Noon to 4:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** \$8.00 adults, \$ 6.00 senior/student \$4.00 kids 5-12, under 5 free  
(906) 296-4121 [www.houghtonhistory.org](http://www.houghtonhistory.org)



### Keweenaw County Historical Society

The society administers five sites throughout Keweenaw County including the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse, Central Mine & Village, Phoenix Church, Rathbone School and the Bammert Blacksmith Shop. Visitor Centers are located at the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse and Central Mine  
**Location:** throughout Keweenaw County, Lighthouse is in Eagle Harbor  
**Open:** June 4 to October 16, Daily – Noon to 5:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** \$4.00 to Lighthouse Museum, Donations accepted at other facilities.  
(906) 296-2561 [www.keweenawhistory.org](http://www.keweenawhistory.org)



### Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne’s

This majestic Jacobsville sandstone structure, with magnificent stained glass windows, is situated at the entrance to the Calumet Historic Landmark District. Special exhibits such as a recent one examining the life of miners’ families living in company houses are occasionally offered.  
**Location:** 25880 Red Jacket Road, Calumet, Michigan  
**Open:** July 1 to August 31, Daily – 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
**Fees:** Donations accepted  
(906) 337-4579 [www.pasty.com/heritage](http://www.pasty.com/heritage)



### Laurium Manor Inn

A wealthy mining captain built this 45-room home in 1908 using the finest and rarest building materials available. Today the inn offers self-guided tours and lodging year-round.  
**Location:** 320 Tamarack Street, Laurium, Michigan  
**Open:** Year round, 7 days a week, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Tour Fees:** \$4.00 for adults, \$2.00 for 17 and under and students  
(906) 337-2549 [www.lauriummanorinn.com](http://www.lauriummanorinn.com)



### McLain State Park

The park protects and provides access to a stretch of Lake Superior shoreline. The Portage Canal is located at the south end of the park, and was dug in the mid-19th century along a Native American portage route to provide shipping passage through the Keweenaw Peninsula. Modern campsites and mini-cabins are available.  
**Location:** 18350 Michigan State Highway 203, Hancock, Michigan  
**Open:** April 30 to November 1, Daily – Dawn until 10:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** Michigan State Park motor vehicle permit required  
**Reservations:** 1-800-447-2757.  
(906) 482-0278 [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)



### Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park

Michigan’s largest state park contains numerous historic copper mining sites. The 59,000-acre park also offers day-hiking, backpacking, camping, remote cabins, canoeing, kayaking, biking and winter sports.  
**Location:** West of Ontonagon, Michigan  
**Open:** Wilderness Visitor Center open mid-May to mid-October, Daily – 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** Michigan State Park motor vehicle permit required  
(906) 885-5275 [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)



### Old Victoria

This early copper mining site provided lodging for miners and is now undergoing restoration to preserve several small log houses. Guided tours interpret the rigors and solitude of miners and their families in the 1890s.  
**Address:** Victoria Dam Road, Rockland, Michigan  
**Open:** May 29 to October 10, Daily – 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
**Fees:** Adults \$5.00, Children (ages 5-12) \$2.00, Under 5 free  
(906) 886-2617 [www.oldvictoriarestoration.org](http://www.oldvictoriarestoration.org)



### Quincy Mine Hoist & Underground Mine

Explore the former Quincy Mining Company on a 2 hour tour that includes a walk through surface structures, a ride on a cog-wheel tram and a trip into the underground mine workings. Tours fill quickly during July and August. Shorter surface only tours are also available.  
**Location:** 49750 U.S. Highway 41, Hancock, Michigan  
**Open:** May 13 to June 16 & September 6 to October 29, Monday to Saturday – 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday – 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
June 17 to September 5 , Monday to Saturday – 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Sunday – 12:30 to 7:00 p.m. Last tour begins at listed closing time.  
**Fees:** Full Tour – \$12.50 adults, \$11.50 seniors & AAA, \$7.50 6-12 year olds, Under 6 free; Surface Tour Only: \$9.50 adults, \$4.50 6-12 year olds  
(906) 482-3101 [www.quincymine.com](http://www.quincymine.com)



### U.P. Fire Fighters Memorial Museum

The historic former Red Jacket Fire Station was built of Jacobsville sandstone around the turn of the century. The second floor features exhibits dedicated to the history of fire fighting in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.  
**Location:** 327 Sixth Street, Calumet, Michigan  
**Open:** June to September, Monday to Saturday – Noon to 4:00 p.m.  
**Fees:** Donations accepted  
(906) 337-4579



- Visit these other Lake Superior National Parks:
- Isle Royale National Park
  - Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
  - Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
  - Grand Portage National Monument





# Speaking Volumes: What Museums and Archives Reveal About Our Past



Posters from the 1913 strike also appeared in other languages, including Slovenian, Finnish, and Italian.

IMAGINE FOR A MOMENT THAT YOU ARE SIX years old. It is a dark winter night in 1913, and you have just been wakened from a deep sleep. Strangers have come to Ahmeek to search your house for guns and ammunition that rumors claim your father is storing for striking members of the Western Federation of Miners. Frightened and cold, you huddle by the cast iron stove to stay warm while your mother pleads with the men to close the door against the wind and snow. You listen while your father angrily questions the men about a warrant. Ignoring him, they start their search, and find not guns but food for the striking men and their families.

The witness to this incident was Lillian Lahti Gow. Although a young girl at the time, she well remembers the fear and confusion she felt when her world was momentarily turned upside down during the tumultuous, and often violent, strike of 1913-1914. As in many parts of the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, workers in Calumet, Quincy, and other Keweenaw mining communities were struggling to define and protect their rights. Underground workers walked off the job in July 1913, protesting long hours, low pay, and often dangerous working conditions. Women and children lent their voices and paraded in support of husbands, brothers, fathers, and friends who refused to work until their demands were met. A group called the Citizen’s Alliance was formed to defend and promote management’s point of view. Issues of polarized communities, and the National Guard was called in to keep the peace. By the time the strike ended in April 1914, it had created bitter, long-standing divisions between labor and management.



Mrs. Gow’s reminiscences were recorded as part of the park’s oral history project, and are preserved in the park’s archival collections. Her memories of childhood and the strike are powerful and vivid, but the past speaks to us through objects as well as people. Consider, for example, two items

in the park’s museum collection. One is a small pin with “Citizen’s Alliance” emblazoned on it; the other, a wooden baton, or billy club. Seen by themselves, they might be considered mere curiosities. However, knowing what we do about the strike, that pin takes on additional significance: someone supported the mining companies’ point of view enough to advertise their allegiance around town, inviting the ire of committed strikers. The billy club was also used during the strike, and its purpose is clear. Was this particular baton used to subdue a miner, perhaps one confronting the person wearing the Citizen’s Alliance pin? We might never

know. Regardless, it reminds us that the strike hurt people in more ways than one.

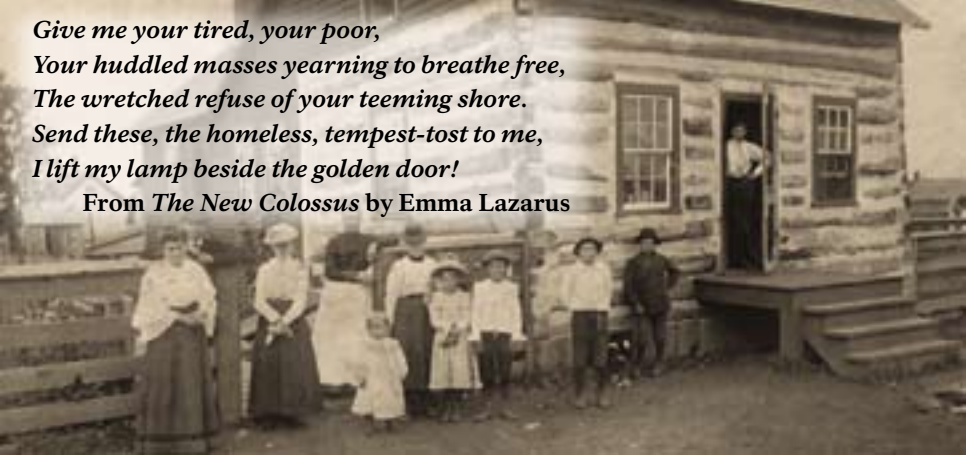
The park works to protect and preserve these significant reminders of our past. Miners’ helmets, drills and lunch pails –like pins, batons and memories – help us imagine the struggles, fears and day-to-day lives of the men, women and children who played a part in the strike. To learn more, visit the Keweenaw History Center on Red Jacket Road in Calumet or call 337-3168.

By Jo Urion, Historian at Keweenaw National Historical Park

In this 1913 photo, National Guard troops and bystanders watch strikers parading down Red Jacket Road, Calumet. Keweenaw NHP Archives, Jack Foster Collection.



## Rediscovering Your Past



A family poses outside their log home near Calumet, Michigan. Keweenaw NHP Archives.

MANY ARE FAMILIAR WITH THIS VERSE BOLDLY displayed at the bottom of the Statue of Liberty, but what did it mean to an immigrant to America? What sense of promise did that “golden door” hold? As a ranger at the Keweenaw Information Desk last summer, some of my most meaningful visitor connections came from those interested in the history of their ancestors. These contacts were sometimes tearful, hopefully helpful and always powerful.

I decided to research the immigration record of my deceased grandfather, Niilo Kaunonen. After many false starts, eventually an amazing story appeared out of the jigsaw-puzzled past. My grandfather came from Alaharma, Finland in 1921 when he was just seven years old. Already in America with her new-found husband, my grandfather’s mother was sending for her only son, whom she left in the “Old Country” until she could scrape together enough money to bring him “over.” Along with an older

female cousin, the intrepid travelers left Finland, took a train to Liverpool, England, and boarded the steamer *Celtic* as two of 2,350 overcrowded third-class passengers bound for Ellis Island. Somehow, they found their way through the teeming, dangerous streets of New York to the Iron Range of northeastern Minnesota.

Some immigrants, like my grandfather, made the voyage to America to join family. Others came fleeing conscription into European wars. Some sought political or religious freedom. Others came on a voyage fueled by wanderlust. While motivations varied, it seems all came seeking or hoping for opportunity. Most immigrants did not find Emma Lazarus’ “golden door” into America so easy to open. Many took jobs in places few were willing to work, doing jobs that few were willing to do. The Keweenaw Peninsula was one such place. At the height of copper mining Calumet schools enrolled children of 40 nationalities. Here

immigrants worked as miners, trammers, blacksmiths, shop keepers and many other trades of the day. The Keweenaw Peninsula’s wealth was built on the backs of immigrants with the blood, sweat, and determination of people seeking a better life for themselves and their families. Immigrant workers and families faced personal and social problems but they lived extraordinary lives in a time that can never be lived again.

There is a concept in social and immigration studies known as “The Long Memory” which emphasizes keeping track of those

we owe. What do we owe our ancestors who took that long, scary step from the Old Country into the new? Do we honor their memories? I honor my grandfather’s memory by being interested in his life and rediscovering his struggle. When we remember our ancestors and their sacrifices we reconnect our lives to theirs. Those tired, poor, huddled masses came to America for a better life. Through their labor, blood, sweat and bravery they gave us the opportunity to step through that golden door.

By Gary Kaunonen, Park Ranger at Keweenaw National Historical Park

Immigration Research Resources

Beginning Your Research

To research an ancestor's immigration history, find as much preliminary information as possible. A quick Internet search may reveal that a distant relative has done much of the work already. Social Security or Social Security Death Index (SSDI) numbers are helpful pieces of information to have. Do not be discouraged if you cannot find these. Many immigrants never became United States citizens and other avenues for attaining your information exist.

National Resources

Ellis Island ([www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org)) – free, helpful search aids, information on immigrant ships

Family Search ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)) – operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, largest genealogical archive in the world

Immigration and History Research Center at the University of Minnesota ([www.ihrc.umn.edu](http://www.ihrc.umn.edu)) – one of the best regional archives in the United States

Private genealogical research companies also exist.

Keweenaw National Historical Park and Copper Country Resources

Visitors can access the park archives by appointment. Phone (906) 337-3168

Michigan Technological University Archives and the Copper Country Historical Collection ([www.lib.mtu.edu](http://www.lib.mtu.edu)) Phone (906) 487-2505

Houghton-Keweenaw County Genealogical Society ([www.hkcg.org](http://www.hkcg.org))

State or Local Resources

State, county or local historical societies may have immigration records.



# No Place Like Home

AS YOUNG BOYS, MY BROTHER AND I EXPLORED our way along many trails, roads, rivers, beaches and campgrounds near our home. With our parents, we welcomed the scenery that unfolded whether we traveled by car, bikes, boots, skis or snowshoes. Our journeys focused on exploring our surroundings; we were unaware these paths would also help us discover who we are.

The landscapes of our youth, although common, allowed us to experience places through our own eyes and in our own way. The settings, weather and events were shared by all but the adventures were distinctly different. We each attribute different values, understanding and meanings to places where our adventures occurred. As boys, we were too busy climbing on rocks, wading through water, throwing iron ore pellets and digging in the dirt to bother discussing what these places meant to us. These were places to investigate, play and discover but we did not pause for reflection.

In broad terms, I wonder if communities and individuals share similar experiences. Are we sometimes so busy and eager to embrace new technology, growth and change that the beauty found in the “ordinary”

landscapes that surround us is overlooked? One thing is certain, what some people discount as ordinary, others find remarkable. Many visitors fly or drive for hours, often at great expense, because the landscapes of the Keweenaw provide refuge and invite them to make their own personal connections to this place and its remarkable past. Visitors value the place more than the price of admission.

John Brinkerhoff Jackson, a writer whose cultural interpretations of the American landscape often celebrated the commonplace, once remarked that “landscape is history made visible.” The history of the Keweenaw is certainly visible today. The evidence exists as historic mining communities, mines, worker housing, roads, churches, remnant orchards, commercial districts, abandoned railroad grades, stone ruins, farms and other widely dispersed historic landscape features. What can we learn and share about these places? Individually, we each attribute our different values, meanings and understanding to these places. Collectively, they define the Keweenaw.

The historic landscapes found in the Keweenaw, along with the buildings and features they contain, can help us under-

stand who we are. While they serve as tangible reminders of our nation’s copper mining heritage and the changes witnessed by that industry and this region, they also reflect the culture, traditions and customs of the people who make their homes here today. They provide the context for our daily lives that allows us to examine our history as individuals, as families, as communities and as a nation. They invite each of us to make our own connections to this place.

Keweenaw National Historical Park works to preserve and interpret landscapes and structures related to copper mining in the Keweenaw. This can only be achieved through successful partnerships and collaborative efforts with property owners committed to sharing the history of this area and inviting others to discover it. Ultimately, the individual actions of property owners will collectively decide the fate of these resources. Will they be retained as evidence of our shared history or for social, scientific or aesthetic reasons? Or, will we simply allow them to gradually fade from our view? We all need to be part of that conversation.

More than 20 years have passed since I left my childhood home. Through the passage of

time, from boyhood to manhood, my brother and I shared conversations about the places we once explored with enthusiasm in our youth. The memories, sights, sounds and smells of these places are etched deeply in our hearts and minds, and drift back upon us as we recall the past. No matter how far apart, we can always go back home.

Now that we are grown, with children and grandparents still eager to discover new places, I’m anxious for my brother’s next visit to the Keweenaw Peninsula. When he and his family arrive you can bet we will once again go exploring. Fortunately, there still remain places to discover, memories to be made and stories to be told in this place I now call home.

By Steve DeLong, Landscape Architect at Keweenaw National Historical Park

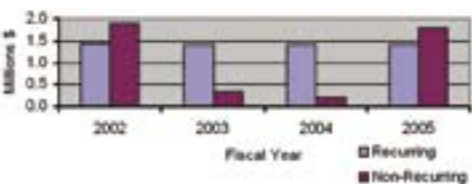
*left:* The remains of the Quincy Mining Company Smelter along Portage Lake are a significant visual feature of the area’s cultural landscape. The park is working towards stabilizing the ruins and rehabilitating them for use as a park visitor center.

*right:* Though many visitors come to the Keweenaw Peninsula for its natural beauty, reminders of the area’s copper mining past dot the landscape. This group investigates mining ruins at Copper Falls.



## Your Money at Work

**What is the business of Keweenaw National Historical Park?**  
In 1992 the U.S. Congress created this national park site to commemorate the story of copper mining on Michigan’s Keweenaw Peninsula. The park challenges the traditional notion of national parks by promoting cooperation among the National Park Service, federal, state and local governmental agencies, public/private not-for-profit organizations, citizen’s groups, the business community and individuals. The preservation and interpretation of the Keweenaw’s cultural landscapes, sites, structures and artifacts is made possible through continued Congressional support and active partnerships within the community, demonstrated here.



**What does it cost to run the park?**  
The chart above shows the historical trend for Congressional appropriated funding since 2002 and includes both recurring and non-recurring funds. Recurring funding is the annual base dollar amount allocated to parks and is known as Operation of the National Park Service (ONPS).

Non-recurring (“project funded”) dollars are highly competitive funds used for construction, land acquisition, equipment replacement, roads, special projects and emergencies.

**Where does the money go?**  
Federal funding is primarily used for park operations which includes visitor services, resource protection, facilities maintenance and administrative support. Federal dollars also support one-time community-based projects. Funding for park operations is allocated among a variety of areas including personnel, equipment, supplies, utilities, travel, services and partnerships.

Through agreements with community partners and cooperating sites, the park has provided the funding and resources necessary for the stabilization, preservation and interpretation of historically significant structures in both the Quincy and Calumet units of the park. Look around for the concrete evidence of how your tax dollars have supported these endeavors. In Calumet these include the former C&H Drill Shop and Dry House. Also visit the Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne’s. Walk around the Pattern Storage Warehouse at Coppertown USA Museum, and other structures in the village of Calumet. Stabilization work also includes the #2 Hoist House, Machine Shop, Boiler House and

Roundhouse located at Quincy Mine. Financial and staff support are key factors in the success of the Main Street Calumet program which includes projects such as storefront rehab, historic preservation and the Downtown Development Authority emergency stabilization program. The Village of Laurium National Register nomination and Franklin Township’s Quincy Smelting Works site have also benefited from park support.

Support and sponsorship of local activities and events such as the Parade of Nations, Heritage Days, Pine Mountain Music Festival, the Fourth Thursday in History series, the annual High School Local History Smackdown and the Young Historians Living History program are fine examples of the park’s commitment to commemorate the complex story of copper mining on the Keweenaw peninsula.

The management and staff of Keweenaw National Historical Park are dedicated to the park’s stewardship mission. Our commitment is to preserve, protect and interpret the natural and cultural resources relating to the copper mining industry of the Keweenaw Peninsula and wisely using your tax dollars to support this effort.

By Kathy Baker, Budget Analyst at Keweenaw National Historical Park

**What is the current inventory of Keweenaw National Historical Park?**

- 1,869 acres of land
- 10 historic buildings, structures or ruins
- 1 NPS Visitor Information Desk (at Quincy Mine Hoist Gift Shop)
- 381,059 museum artifacts
- 8 vehicles
- 15 permanent employees
- 1 term employee, not to exceed 4 years
- Additional temporary employees, based on funding

Restoration work on the exterior of the Union Building in Calumet, Michigan will begin this summer.





National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Keweenaw National Historical Park  
25970 Red Jacket Road, PO Box 471  
Calumet, MI 49913

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

# Interpretive Services



This chart provides an overview of services available at Keweenaw National Historical Park and park cooperating sites for the 2005 summer season. Use the map and cooperating site descriptions, found in the center of this newspaper, for contact information and location.

Keweenaw National Historical Park Ranger Programs    June 18 to August 28	
<b>Calumet Walking Tour</b>	<b>Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and Saturday at 2:00 p.m.</b>
Explore the former Calumet & Hecla Copper Mining Company's industrial operations before travelling into downtown Calumet to see the copper community's business district. 2 hours, 1.5 miles, Easy Terrain. Accessible with assistance. Meet in front of Park Headquarters on Red Jacket Road. Tour ends at the Calumet Theatre.	
<b>Quincy Porch Talk</b>	<b>Tuesday at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. &amp; 3:00 p.m., and Saturday at 11:00 a.m.</b>
Join us for a 30 minute talk on an aspect of Keweenaw National Historical Park and the area's copper mining history. Topics vary. Meet on the porch of the Quincy Mine Gift Shop. Accessible.	
<b>Calumet &amp; Hecla Library Tour</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. &amp; 2:00 p.m.</b>
Explore the former C&H Library, now owned by the National Park Service, on a guided tour that focuses on the building's architecture and history. Visit the Keweenaw History Center which houses the park's museum collection and archives. 30 minutes, Stairs. Not accessible.	

	Guided Tours / Programs	Guided Tours by Appointment	Self-Guided Tours/Exhibits	Evening Programs	Music and Theater Performances	Staff Available to Assist Visitors	Gift Shop	Open for Research by Appointment
A. E. Seaman Mineral Museum		●	●			●	●	●
Calumet Theatre	●		●		●	●	●	
Copper Range Historical Museum			●			●	●	●
Coppertown USA Museum			●			●	●	●
Delaware Copper Mine	●		●			●	●	
Fort Wilkins State Park			●	●		●	●	
Hanka Homestead			●					
Houghton County Historical Museum		●	●		●	●	●	●
Keweenaw County Historical Society		●	●			●	●	●
Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne's			●			●	●	●
Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau						●		
Keweenaw National Historical Park – Calumet Unit	●		●			●		●
Keweenaw National Historical Park – Quincy Unit						●		
Laurium Manor Inn			●			●	●	
McLain State Park	●		●	●		●		
Old Victoria	●					●		
Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park	●		●	●		●	●	
Quincy Mine Hoist & Underground Mine	●	●	●			●	●	
U.P. Firefighters Memorial Museum			●			●		

Services vary by season. Additional services may be offered. Programs may be cancelled due to staffing shortages or adverse weather. Contact information for sites is located in center of the newspaper.

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